REMARKS

Claims 1-41 are pending. Claims 1-41 were rejected. Claim 37 was objected to.

Independent claims 1, 11, 24, and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated

by Mazor (USP 6,351,516). Claim 37 has been amended to address informalities. Independent

claims 1, 11, 24, and 37 have been amended to variably recite measuring generated current

caused by the x-ray emission inducer. Neither Mazor, nor any other reference cited by the

Examiner is believed to teach or suggest this element.

Mazor describes "an X-ray microfluorescence analyzer, comprising an excitation source

and one or more detectors. The analyzer is used to determine whether the recesses of the test

pattern have been properly filled. When irradiated by the excitation source, the metal layer (or

other fill material in the recesses) emits fluorescent X-rays with a characteristic spectrum. The

intensity of this emission is proportional to the mass of the emitting material." (Column 2, Lines

30-35).

However, Mazor does not teach or suggest measuring generated current caused by the x-

ray emission inducer. In one embodiment, generated current can be measured to verify or

confirm the existence of voids. In some examples, electrons penetrating the test sample

completely can generate a current that can be detected by an electrically isolated stage (page 14,

lines 16-19).

In light of the above remarks relating to the independent claims, dependent claims are

believed allowable for at least the reasons noted above. Applicants believe that all pending

claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the

Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the

prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out

below.

Respectfully submitted,

BEYEMWEAYDR & THOMAS, LLP

Godffey K. Kwar

Reg. No. 46,850

P.O. Box 778

Berkeley, CA 94704-0778

(510) 843-6200

KLA1P041/P773

6